

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SS-20 MC-02 INR-10 DRC-01 RSC-01

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P 081327Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1787

C O N F I D E N T I A L USOECD PARIS 3485

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, FR, CZ, GE

SUBJECT: FRENCH CORING CABLE TO CSSR AND EAST GERMANY - IL 1754

FOR EB/ITP/EWT - GREGORY

REF: A. COCOM DOCS (73) 2430, 2431 AND 2432

B. STATE 26022

1. WHILE WE APPRECIATE TIMELY DISPATCH OF INSTRUCTIONS, WE FEAR THAT FIRST PORTION OF REFTEL WILL BE SEEN AS GRATUITOUS BY BOTH FRENCH AND - PERHAPS - OTHER DELS SINCE IT APPARENTLY FAILS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF FACT THAT ORIGINAL SUBMISSIONS ARE FOR HYBRID CABLE, OF WHICH LARGEST PORTION (3500 AND 4000 M. RESPECTIVELY) IS IN FACT MADE OF UNEMBARGOED, RUBBER-INSULATED CABLE. ARE WE SUGGESTING THAT CZECHS AND EAST GERMANS SHOULD FIRST BUY 4000 METERS OF UNEMBARGOED CABLE, DRILL TO 4000 METERS, AND THEN BUY ADDITIONAL LENGTHS OF EMBARGOED TEFLON CABLE AND SPLICE IT TO PREVIOUSLY USED LENGTH OF RUBBER-INSULATED CABLE?

2. AS TO APPARENT FUTURE TENSE IN FRENCH REPLY, WE ARE NOT SURE THIS DID NOT SUFFER SOME IN DRAFTING OR TRANSLATIONS, BUT IN ANY EVENT WE MADE THE STRONG ARGUMENT IN CONNECTION WITH (73) 2307 THAT SUCH PROCUREMENT HAS TO BE MADE REASONABLY IN ADVANCE OF ACTUAL USE.

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3. AS MAY BE SEEN IN DRAFT OF COCOM DOC. (74) 253, DISCUSSION OF EARLIER US QUESTIONS ON THESE FRENCH CASES STRUCK SPARKS AT JAN 29 COCOM MEETING WHEN IN RESPONSE TO COMMENT FROM ANOTHER DEL USDEL BROUGHT UP FRENCH QUESTIONS ON OUR OWN CORING CABLE SUBMISSION IN (72) 2307. WE ENDEAVORED THEN TO EMPHASIZE THE REASONABLE CHARACTER OF OUR QUESTIONS IN THESE CASES. QUESTION IN REF B ABOUT DRILLING DEPTHS DOES NOT PRECISELY STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION IN THIS RESPECT.

4. OUR QUERY ON APPARENT ABSENCE OF HYDROCARBON DEPOSITS IN ERZGEBIRGE AREA IS OF COURSE VALID, BUT COVERS PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS ONLY FOR (73) 2430 AND 2432. ON BALANCE, WE FELT IT BEST TO ASK VARNOUX FOR TIME-EXTENSION (7 DAYS) PENDING YOUR VERIFICATION THAT FIRST PORTION OF REFTEL IS NECESSARY (EVEN AS HOLDING ACTION), AND - IF NECESSARY - REPHRASING TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS.

5. PLEASE INSTRUCT PROMPTLY OR INDICATE YOU WOULD WANT THIS RETRANSMITTED IN EXCON SERIES.
BROWN

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